

# **Christmas Behind Bars Ministry**

Pendleton, Indiana - December 31, 2007

Thanks to the generosity of volunteers from the community, offenders at the Pendleton Correctional Facility were recipients of some holiday cheer again this year.

On December 3rd volunteers associated with the Fort Wayne area "Christmas Behind Bars Ministry" distributed gift bags to offenders containing a variety of candy and other snack items. This was the second year this organization has provided this program to the facility according to Acting Superintendent Jamie Houston.

On December 12th members of the Gospel Echoes Ministry out of Goshen Indiana along with several volunteers passed out homemade cookies to offenders and staff during a visit to the facility. The Gospel Echoes Group has conducted this program at the facility for several years and everyone always looks forward to this event. All staff and offenders at the facility were extremely appreciative of the care and compassion demonstrated by these volunteer organizations, especially at this time of year stated Mr. Houston.

## **About The Department of Correction**

The Department employs over 8,000 employees and houses 24,000 adult and juveniles in 32 facilities, ranging from minimum to maximum custody, prison camps, juvenile facilities and work release centers. The Department's home page on the Internet can be found at: <http://www.in.gov/indcorrection>. The Department's Re-entry Site can be found: <http://www.reentry.in.gov>.